National protest comes to Fresno State

By Megan Poindexter
The Collegian

More than 7,000 protesters gathered in the Save Mart Center parking lot on Wednesday, as part of a nationwide campaign patterned after the Boston Tea Party. Tina Rios, a Fresno housewife, was one of the many protesters who believe taxes are used irresponsibly. “I believe in helping out, but it needs to go to the right people,” Rios said.

A perk of advertising together is that all members share a common platform, while also maintaining individual goals for the given positions they are running for.

“It works well to run together because you create more resources when you run together,” said Jessica Sweeten, who is running for ASI president and also a member of Johnson’s group.

“We know that together, we can continue to be a great asset to ASI.”

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Thus, it is like running with several running mates. It brings candidates together under a common purpose and goal, which allows for an easier means of promoting.

See GROUPS, Page 2
Tom Boroujeni is currently running for the ASI position of president and is the founder of the group P. E. D. R. O. In starting his campaign Boroujeni wanted to be able to hand pick people to run with him, in hopes that if he is elected to office, that people voting for him will also vote into office the other members of his campaign group. If other members of P. E. D. R. O. are elected alongside him, Boroujeni believes that change will be allowed to happen.

Currently, Hector Cerda, a candidate for the office of vice president of finance, is Boroujeni’s right hand man along with eight others who are running for senate positions.

Cerda believes that the group campaigning strategy can be difficult at times, but believes that by working together they all have a better chance of getting into office and a great opportunity to work alongside one another.

“When I am out campaigning I ask students that if they vote for me to vote for the other students on our slate because we all see eye to eye,” said Cerda.

“The advantage in working with a group is that if I run on the same slate with other like minded students then I feel we can make an actual change in our student government.”

Collectively, the members of P. E. D. R. O. have each been assigned targeted areas for campaigning where they pass out flyers with their ten point platform and are also promoting their website www.pedrosasi.com. In similar fashion, the members of For Students Who Deserve More are campaigning on the Web and promoting that their group be elected to office through other mediums.

This group consists of Johnson, who is running for re-election to her current position; Jessica Sweeten, running for the office of president; and Alex Andreotti, who is running for a senator at-large position. And while there are only three that make up For Students Who Deserve More they believe that their campaign is stronger than ever and simply trying to bring a new vision to ASI.

“Our common goal is to continue the shared governance model implemented this school year,” said Andreotti. “ASI’s motto is ‘Students Serving Students,’ and this is done through student representatives on campus committees.”

Andreotti, Sweeten and Johnson are all somehow involved in the current ASI and believe new change has already begun, but they still have a new vision for next year’s student government and see endless possibilities for the future.

However, members of the P. E. D. R. O. group believe that the current and past structure of ASI have been nothing but bad news.

“Right now people are not putting in the time and the whole point of P. E. D. R. O. is for students to feel like they are getting more because they deserve a lot more,” Boroujeni said.

When I am out campaigning I ask students that if they vote for me, to vote for the other students on our slate because we all see eye to eye.”

— Hector Cerda
V.P. of Finance candidate
Tea parties lack strong principles

Kaley Delarosa

The American economy is in turmoil. The housing market is collapsed. Companies small and large are going out of business. The automobile industry is crying for bail outs. Banks and investors are broke and we are spending billions of dollars on worthless Iraqi body bags. At a time of economic crisis, the American people should be able to look to their elected leaders and their government to solve our problems. But, good luck doing that. President Barack Obama has been so concerned with making sure everyone knows that his administration “inherited” all of its problems from the Bush Administration, he doesn’t have much time to be the president of the United States.

Obama started the blame game when he gave his inaugural speech in January and has continued to push this line that everyone he took office was already bad when he took office, ever since. I am not saying he is wrong; he did inherit these problems. They were set in motion long before he took office. He should have told the American people about it and take responsibility for the problems he knew existed when he promised the American people his change. For many Americans, the only change they can see is what’s left of their bank account.

Spending $80 million to save Nancy Pelosi’s salt marsh harvest mouse sounds like earmark spending to me — something Obama assured us we would stop when he took office. Obama’s policies of out-of-control spending and taxation of America’s middle class is driving our country further into debt every day and crushing the American dream.

It’s blatantly clear that Obama loves to be in front of the camera, but he needs to be spending his time in the oval office. In response to Obama’s response when he was in office, Jimmy Carter said, “You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.” Obama would be wise to take the advice of our previous renowned leader; before it is too late for him and too late for our country. Constantly putting the former president to make himself look better is a cowardly way out. Obama claims he wants to move forward. If this is true, he needs to stop looking back, stop blaming the previous administration, and do so.

That’s What the People Are Saying

On an anti-Obama bumper sticker placed on news vans

“O

h you dirty teabaggers. It’s one thing if you don’t like more taxes for government or o, gasp, bloggers. But, you do not, I repeat, you do not mess with Channel 4 News Vans. How dare you, sir, How dare you. They are on YOUR side dammit!”

— Mikey, thefreeman.com

Letters to the Editor (collegian@csufresno.edu)

All letters submitted to The Collegian must not exceed 250 words in length, must be handwritten, and signed. All letters must be accompanied by a full name and phone number to verify contact. The Collegian reserves the right to edit all letters for length, content, spelling and grammar, as well as the right to refuse publication of any material submitted. All material submitted to The Collegian becomes property of The Collegian. The Collegian reserves the right to edit material for length, content, spelling and grammar, as well as the right to refuse publication of any material submitted. All material submitted to The Collegian becomes property of The Collegian.

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The Super Lucky Catz have a hard time describing their own music. Eclectic sounds, voice and lyrics put the group in a musical genre all its own. This Saturday at 1 p.m. during Vintage Days, Fresno State students and the community will have the opportunity to hear the band’s unique style.

Lead singer Robert Barron-Gushel, known locally as “The Voice,” brings old school sounds similar to Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gaye to mind. Coupled with the distinctive musical styles of guitarist Brandon Yoshida and bassist Shadow Garza, the band’s sound intermingles jazz, rock and pop, offering a similar feel to the laid back tunes of Jack Johnson and Jason Mraz.

Barron-Gushel, Yoshida and Garza, the band’s three core members, work in collaboration to write all of the Super Lucky Catz’ music and lyrics. While the three remain constant in all performances and recordings, they often enlist the talents of a drummer, a saxophone player and a backup singer to create their unique sound.

The group’s goal is to keep their music positive and encouraging. Music can build a bridge between all people and all demographics,” Barron-Gushel said. “We bring people together. We want to cut the barriers.”

Barron-Gushel said the Super Lucky Catz’ songs focus on real human emotions. “We don’t write about women or cars or getting drunk,” Barron-Gushel said. “Our music is representative of our lives and with life comes a lot of different emotions.”

“Fight No More” represent the group’s mission to make the world a better place, while tracks such as “Luna” and “Dance” represent love and hope. Barron-Gushel and Yoshida started out by performing covers of other artists. They soon realized they had a passion for song writing and began writing and recording their own music. Over time, they recruited new talents and sounds until the band grew to the six-member ensemble performing and recording today.

Each member of the band is as unique as their music and their name, which stemmed from a time when Barron-Gushel and Yoshida played covers with a Japanese group called Maneki Neko.

The group was named after a popular symbolic cat found on Japanese items such as Sake, which means Lucky Cat and eventually grew to the name Super Lucky Catz.

Barron-Gushel said Yoshida is athletic and described himself as a “big guy” who enjoys eating and hanging out with friends. Even though the members of the Super Lucky Catz are very different, their passion for music brings them together.

All of the members were born and raised in Fresno and the band tries to play locally as often as possible. “We like to stay local because we live here and this is our home,” Barron-Gushel said.

Even though the Super Lucky Catz tried their hand at “American Idol” and “America’s Got Talent,” their motivation is not fame or money. Barron-Gushel said. “Yoshida said playing in the band has become like a second job. ‘It’s not a hobby anymore, but that’s a good thing. It’s fun but also challenging,’” he said. “When we are playing live and I get to see people singing the songs and enjoying the music, it makes it all worth it.”

For more information or to hear the band’s unique style, visit: MySpace.com/SuperLuckyCatz or silchand.com.
ACROSS
1 Butterflies’ cousins
6 29th state
10 Con game
14 Community character
15 Emulate a mouse or beaver
16 Tag along
17 Cry uncle
20 Width of Tripoli?
21 Likewise
22 Ambulance attachments
23 Canal maker
26 Folk knowledge
27 “Desperate Housewives” is one
32 Most people, statistically
33 3D movie
34 Dandelion or goldenrod, e.g.
35 Country group Diamond
36 “Up Where We Belong,” e.g.
37 Gave dinner to
38 Gold-covered
39 America’s first regulatory agcy.
40 Irish Rose’s lover
42 Accent
44 Major depression out West?
47 “It ___ over ‘til it’s over”
48 Assisted in a bad way
51 Hair care concoction
54 Troop troupe, briefly
55 Prefix for the birds
56 Top-notch
60 Captain Hook’s right-hand man
61 Run without moving

DOWN
1 Allocated (with “out”)
2 Not this or that
3 Suit type
4 “Yoo ___ !”
5 Colorado Springs-to-Santa Fe direction
6 Pay no attention to
7 In the know about
8 Baby’s cry
9 Impressive, to teens
10 Passes the plate?
11 “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” writer
12 Last word spoken at night, for many
13 Diner where Alice works
18 Newwy nuggets
19 Hackneyed, as a joke
24 Quaint oath
25 “Of all the ___ joints ___”
26 Violated a commandment
28 Word from a bird
29 Gives freshmen introduction, say
30 Afflicts
31 Ante holders
32 Access for a caller
33 “Parading is ___ sweet sorrow”
37 Official proclamation
38 Abrasive particles
39 Civil rights activist Medgar
40 Respond to the roster
41 Nonpaying gig
42 Dutch footwear
43 “Ash-Wednesday” monogram
45 They may be in stitches
46 Short-legged hound
49 Civil rights activist Medgar
50 Unsportsmanlike
51 More than half
52 “You want a piece ___?”
53 Salt Lake City hoops
54 Modern bookmarks
57 “Cyan” finish
58 “That ___ then”
59 Riguer (to the fullest extent)

PUZZLE SOLUTION: http://collegian.csufresno.edu
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“Crowded classrooms and half-day sessions are a tragic waste of our greatest national resource, the minds of our children.”

— Walt Disney, American cartoonist

Sudoku

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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The Collegian Online

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Survey closes Monday, April 20, 2009

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or at The Collegian office in SA 169

The daily crossword
Edited by Timothy E. Parker
Universal Press Syndicate

“A clean mind” by Carson Benny
The top 10 tight ends

Pascoe looking to break into NFL at draft

By Dan Pompei
McClatchy Tribune

The 2009 NFL is full of talent at the tight end position. Here is a peak at the Top 10 in the draft class — without former Fresno State tight end Bear Pascoe.

1. Brandon Pettigrew, Oklahoma State
   He is easily the best combination blocker/receiver in the draft. He has excellent hands, but he is not a fluid runner. He was unimpressive at the combine. Pettigrew plays the game with an attitude. He is a little unreified but has the potential to improve. He was a captain in college and he plays like you want a leader to play.

2. Jared Cook, South Carolina
   This junior will be drafted as a tight end, but he really has not proven he can do everything an NFL tight end is asked to do. Cook plays in a spread offense and rarely is asked to block in-line. Yet he is an outstanding athlete who has had excellent workouts. A former wide receiver, he has soft hands and big-play ability. Cook gets knocked around on his pass routes at times.

3. Shawn Nelson, Southern Mississippi
   This is an athletic tight end who is more receiver than blocker. Nelson does have the potential at least to be a functional blocker although it’s unlikely he ever will be a weapon in the run game. He can create mismatches against linebackers and safeties.

4. Travis Beckum, Wisconsin
   A good receiver who knows how to run routes and find seams. He can stretch the field and is dangerous after the catch. As a blocker, Beckum is not very powerful at the point. He can wall off and cut off the backside pursuit, but hasn’t been a lead blocker. Beckum is smaller (6 feet 4 inches, 235 pounds) than you would like. Scouts compare him to 2008 first-round pick Dustin Keller.

5. James Casey, Rice
   A former Chicago White Sox farmhand, Casey is an excellent athlete who can run and catch. The underclassman also has been tried at defensive end, quarterback and wide receiver and once played seven positions in a game. Casey has a feel for getting open. He lacks the girth (6-4, 235) and power to be effective in-line so might be best as an H-back.

6. Cameron Morrah, California
   This junior is a nice combination tight end who puts together blocking potential with receiving ability. He needs to get stronger and become more physical, but is a willing blocker who can develop. As a receiver, he can run by most linebackers.

7. Cornelius Ingram, Florida
   He is a very gifted receiver who can make big plays. A savvy route runner with speed who catches almost everything and gets yards after the catch. He has had a hard time staying healthy and he missed the 2008 season with a torn ACL. When he last played, he weighed 225 and he hardly ever was asked to block in-line. He has added more than 20 pounds since then, which could improve his blocking potential and/or take away from his abilities as a receiver.

8. Chase Coffman, Missouri
   This is a tall (6-6) tight end with a great catching radius and soft hands. He is not a real sudden or speedy runner, but he has a knack for getting open, especially against zones. He wins jump balls. Coffman has not been asked to block much so that element of his game is an unknown. He is hard worker with NFL genes — his father Paul played tight end for the Packers and Chiefs.

9. Richard Quinn, North Carolina
   He may be the best blocking tight end in the draft. Quinn has the toughness to be used as a “sixth” offensive lineman, and the quickness to get out and take care of linebackers. He is not a very quick or elusive runner, and his hands are average.

10. Darth Hill, Ball State
    This is a tall (6-6) tight end with a great catching radius and soft hands. He was a good blocker in college and he plays like you want a leader to play.

continued from page 8

also being slavered over the author. This book needs to sell and “The Bulldog possible disbelief of Mike Batesole” just isn’t as sexy as “The Bulldog Mutiny.”

Also, it doesn’t really hold to logic that this sort of unrest would coincide with tremendous on-field success.

Delving ever further, we find that Taylor didn’t attend a single game at the 2008 CWS, and as of yet is not commenting on the issues his book raises.

But the administration and Batesole have not denied the showboat story. It may very well have happened, but this is far from a mutiny, and I’ve heard many racy and more interesting behind-the-scenes stories from my buddies who played high school football.

The book hasn’t been released yet, and may prove to be more ground-shaking than I suspect. However, seeing as how Batesole hasn’t been suspended or reprimanded in any way thus far, it seems unlikely.

And as long as nothing major comes of it, the team should thank Taylor. This is America, and no big extraordinary event ever gets by here without a few conspiracy theories popping up. In this respect, Mr. Taylor has confirmed just how great and unusual last summer’s “Cinderella run” really was.

We warned. Elvis and Tupac are still alive, we never went to the moon, Ronald Reagan ordered the CIA to put crack in the ghettos and now the 2008 Fresno State baseball team had a secret mutiny against their head coach. What exciting company to be in! So when June rolls around you should buy the book, read it, grab some friends, light up a few cigars under dim light and commence discussing the eerie possibilities behind the Wonderdogs. We here in the media desperately need your contribution.

WILLIS: Book out in June

by Andrew Riggs
The Collegian / Collegian File Photo

Coach Mike Batesole allegedly had a physical confrontation with sophomore Trent Soares in ‘08.

CONTINUED from page 8

Batesole allegedly had a physical confrontation with sophomore Trent Soares in ‘08.

CONTINUED from page 8

Batesole allegedly had a physical confrontation with sophomore Trent Soares in ‘08.
Tennis prepares for WAC Tourney

By Haisten Willis
The Collegian

For many, playing tennis in Honolulu sounds like a heavenly getaway from life’s challenges. But for the Fresno State Men’s Tennis team, it’s the culminating point of their season.

The team only plays three more matches before the Western Athletic Conference Tournament in Hawaii, and it is working hard to end the season on a good note.

“The players are playing well, we’re 14-7 right now. As a whole we’ve had a good season. We play three in Boise, and then it’s on to Hawaii,” head coach Jay Udwadia said.

While Siwy is undoubtedly the only senior on the No. 46 Fresno State men’s tennis team. Udwadia said, “That’s always the goal for us, to win the WAC. It’s very competitive.”

“Rudy’s been a great player for us. He’s moved up the ladder through the years and he’s highly ranked,” Udwadia said. “I’m glad to see him achieve so much here not only tennis wise but academically.”

Siwy’s leadership will play an important role if the team is going to beat Boise State and Nevada and win the WAC Tournament on the island. Beyond that, the ‘Dogs hope for a big run and the NCAA Tournament and look forward to next year.

While Siwy is undoubtedly one of the team’s best players, Udwadia is confident the team will play well again next season. “It’s nice, we’re only losing one player,” Udwadia said. “Regardless of what happens, we’re going to be strong for next year.”

The team currently ranks No. 46 nationally and swept No. 52 Pacific 7-0 in its latest match. Before that the team took to the home court for the final time in the match against No. 8 Stanford. Other season highlights include winning their last six home matches in a row and a win over No. 42 San Diego State in February.

The Bulldogs next face No. 19 Boise State and No. 66 Nevada, the only other ranked teams in the WAC, in a three-match stretch on April 17 and 18. The WAC Tournament starts April 23.

Udwadia made his team’s goals clear. “We’ve got to clean up a little bit, stay loose.”

“Rudy is working hard to end the season on a good note. We play three in Boise, and then it’s on to Hawaii,” Udwadia said. “We always want to win the conference and see how far we can go in the NCAA Tournament.”

The team boasts only one senior, Rudy Siwy, of the Czech Republic. Siwy ranks No. 59 nationally among individuals and is the team captain. He took to the home court for the final time in the match against Pacific.

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Defense builds confidence

After difficult 2008 campaign, ’Dogs’ defense is ready to right the ship in ’09

By Lorenzo Reyna  
The Collegian

The Bulldog defense may not be developing a swagger, but they have gotten the best out of the offense at spring football practice.

All 11 defenders can be seen chasing down ball carriers, pressuring the quarterback, and creating turnovers when lining up against the offense.

The man behind changing the culture of the defense is new coordinator Randy Stewart.

“The development of the defense has been outstanding,” Stewart said. “We’ve improved our ability against the run. We’ve dramatically improved in playing team defense. We’re on track as long as we can be consistent and keep improving, improving and improving.”

Stewart spent his last seven seasons coaching the defensive backs under the late Dan Brown. He was promoted to defensive coordinator in the spring of 2009 as part of a major reshuffling of the coaching staff.

Stewart has been able to get some of his defenders to take on a more versatile role with the new defense.

“We got a couple guys at each position (moving around),” Stewart said. “The inside defensive linemen has gotten ten flipped with both tackles. We got an edge guy in the front that’s got to move inside. We got a linebacker that plays outside a little bit that has to kick inside. From a depth standpoint, we’re pretty steady and solid in the secondary. We’re flipping some guys and we’re getting a lot of work from a lot of the guys.”

Stewart has been most impressed with the players believing in each other and playing with a sense of teamwork.

“I think they’re starting to gradually build more and more confidence in themselves and more importantly, confidence in the guy next to them,” Stewart said. “We haven’t had a lot of situations where it comes down to one guy making the play, and that means you’re playing good team defense.”

Logan Harrell has been one defender who has stood out against the offense by anchoring the defensive line.

“We’ve definitely progressed since last season,” Harrell said. “You can see it.”

Harrell credits his defensive line coach Will Plemons for being instrumental in the development of the four-man front.

“Coach Plemons is doing a great job with all of us,” Harrell said. “He does a good job working with all of us; we’ve learned a lot from him.”

Harrell didn’t just receive tutelage from Plemons, he also learned from former starters Jon Monga and Ikenna Ekpe, sophomore Logan Harrell, left, will be playing a larger role for the defense under recently promoted defensive coordinator Randy Stewart.

“I learned a lot from them when I first got here in the summer,” Harrell said. “Starting from there, they showed me the ropes all the way up to when Monga got injured at Toledo and I had to go in. That’s when it really kicked in, starting to do everything that the seniors...